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MR. K. O. ANTHONI :—" In view of the fact that in the matter of giving scholarships and boarding grants, converts to Christianity from Harijans have been included in the terms Adi-Andhras and Adi-Dravidas, will the hon. the Premier consider the desirability of examining the question of inclusion of converts to Christianity for this purpose also?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" No, Sir."

Establishment of the Legislature Secretariat.

* 84 *Q.*—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the pay of the officers and establishment of the Legislative Department is the same as that of officers of the same category and of similar establishment in the other departments of the Secretariat;

(*b*) whether their recruitment, appointment, leave and pension are governed by the same rules as those of the other sections of the Secretariat;

(*c*) whether this branch of administration received the consideration of the Salaries Committee, and, if so, what were their recommendations;

(*d*) if the answer to (*b*) is in the negative, whether the Government have at any time considered the desirability of raising the status and emoluments of the officers, and of the establishment at least approximate to those of the other branches of the Secretariat;

(*e*) whether any temporary staff is recruited during the sessions of the Legislature; and

(*f*) whether there is a proposal to increase the permanent staff to avoid the need for temporary establishment paid from the contingencies?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" (*a*) A comparative statement[a] of the pay of officers and establishment is placed on the Table. It will be seen that while the pay of officers is not the same, that of the establishment of the same category is the same.

" (*b*) The rules governing recruitment and appointment are different.

" As regards leave, the Legislature Secretariat is treated as a vacation department, while the main Secretariat is not so treated. The amount of leave earned by the staff of the Legislature Secretariat under Fundamental Rules will be reduced by one month for each year of duty in which the Government servant has availed himself of the vacation and by 45 or 30 days according as he earns leave under Madras Leave Rules, 1933, at the rate of one-seventh or one-eleventh of the period spent on duty.

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[a] Printed as Appendix on page 510 infra.

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"The pension rules in the Civil Service Regulations govern alike the Legislature Secretariat and the main Secretariat.

"(c) The Legislature Secretariat was considered by the Salaries Committee. Its recommendations are given in the appended statement. [a]

"(d) The question does not arise in respect of the establishment.

"As regards officers, the Government fixed the present rates of pay as not inadequate for the duties involved and as not incompatible with the dignity of the posts.

"(e) Yes. Some temporary establishment paid from lump allotment is engaged for short periods in connexion with the meetings of the Legislature.

"(f) The work allotted to the temporary staff is of a temporary nature and of very minor importance. It will be extravagant to have a permanent staff for this kind of work which will exist only during the meetings. There is no proposal to employ permanent staff in order to avoid temporary staff."

Sri B. BHIMA RAO :—"May I ask the Hon. Minister whether it is a fact that the maximum pay of a reporter here after 25 years of service is less than the minimum pay of the latest recruit in other Provinces?"

The Hon. Sri T. PRAKASAM :—"I take the information from the hon. Member."

Sri R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—"May I know why this Department is treated as a vacation department? Now that a popular government is in office, will they have any rest as the Legislature must be meeting more often than before?"

The Hon. Sri T. PRAKASAM :—"I think we shall examine the question and do away with the distinction if it is unnecessary."

Sri B. BHIMA RAO :—"Is it a fact that in other Provinces, reporters reach their maximum within half the period which they take in this Province?"

The Hon. Sri T. PRAKASAM :—"It might be so, Sir."

Sri B. BHIMA RAO :—"May I ask whether the Government are prepared to consider the revision of the salaries of reporters in accordance with the scales prevailing in other Provinces?"

The Hon. Sri T. PRAKASAM :—"Certainly not, Sir. Conditions in each Province may differ."

Mr. K .O. ANTHONI :—"Is it a fact that a number of reporters have reached their maximum and have been drawing the same pay consecutively for a number of years without any further inducement to work?"

The Hon. Sri T. PRAKASAM :—"I cannot tell the hon. Member straightaway."

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[a] Printed as Appendix on page 510 infra.

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SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I ask whether the question of including the establishment of the Legislature in the Secretariat Service was ever considered, Sir? "

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" I do not know whether it was considered before. Perhaps it may be considered now, if it is not already done."

Admission into Engineering and Medical Colleges.

* 85 Q.—K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state how many Muslim, Brahman, Non-Brahman, Scheduled Caste, Christian and Anglo-Indian students, respectively, were admitted in the Engineering Colleges and the Medical Colleges of the Province during each of the previous five academic years?

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I am not putting this question as only one clause of my question has been included in the notice paper. I want all the clauses to be answered together."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :— " This question may be answered, Sir, inasmuch as the answer is ready. If the hon. Member wants to put some other question, I should like to have proper notice of it."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Notice has already been given a month ago."

(The question was not put and answered.)

Alleged land speculation under the Thungabhadra project.

* 85-A Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state when the Government hope to introduce a Bill to prevent land speculation under the Thungabhadra Project embodying the points enunciated in the Press Note of Government, dated February 7, 1946?

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH :—" The Government expects to introduce a Bill in the next sittings of the Legislature."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" May I know from the Hon. the Premier whether the answers to the questions put by Mr. Muthuranga Mudaliyar are ready? "

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" They are ready, Sir, with me just now. I received the answers late in the evening yesterday. If the question is taken up tomorrow, copies will be supplied to you, Mr. President."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Not necessary. The question may be answered now."